

Storage of Soil, Sand, and Other Erodible Materials

This activity applies to you if you are stockpiling erodible raw materials such as soil, sawdust, [landscaping bark](#), gravel, sand, and road deicing salts. It covers permanent sites as well as temporary construction sites and other temporary locations. Raw material stockpiles can easily erode due to wind or precipitation and contribute suspended solids, nutrients, heavy metals, and abnormal pH to stormwater runoff.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

The following BMPs, or equivalent measures, methods, or practices, are required if you are engaged in storage or stockpiling of MORE THAN 5 cubic yards of erodible material on a routine basis.

(Stockpiles of less than 5 cubic yards are addressed below):

1

Cover and contain the stockpiles of raw materials to prevent stormwater from running into the covered piles. The covers must be in place at all times when the stockpile is not in active use.

OR

If the stockpiles are so large that they cannot feasibly be covered and contained, you must implement erosion control practices at the perimeter of your site and at any catch basins to prevent erosion of the stockpiled material into the catch basin or off site.



See BMP Info Sheet 3 in Chapter 4 for information on covering options.



See BMP Info Sheet 5 in Chapter 4 for information on containment options.

2

[Required](#) Routine maintenance:

- Sweep paved storage areas monthly and collect and dispose of loose solid materials. Do not hose down the area to a storm drain or conveyance ditch.
- Stock cleanup materials, such as brooms, dustpans, and vacuum sweepers near the storage area.

The following BMPs, or equivalent measures, methods, or practices, are required if you are engaged in storage or stockpiling of LESS THAN 5 cubic yards of erodible material on a temporary basis:



Cover the stockpiles of raw materials to prevent stormwater from running into the covered piles. The covers must be in place at all times when the stockpile is not in active use.



See BMP Info Sheet 3 in Chapter 4 for information on covering options.

ADDITIONAL BMPs

The following BMPs are not required but they can provide improved pollution control:



A catch basin insert, configured for sediment removal, may remove some of the pollutants in runoff from this activity. Catch basin inserts require frequent maintenance to be effective. Carefully consider this requirement when evaluating your options.



See BMP Info Sheet 9 in Chapter 4 for more information.

For more information or assistance in implementing these best management practices, contact the King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks Stormwater Services Section at 206-296-1900.

Reader Note: The above requirements are the minimum required BMPs. If these BMPs fail to prevent discharges to the storm drainage system you will be asked to take additional measures to correct the continued pollution discharges.